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STAT

THE FRONT PAGE

By Rudy Maxa

AFTERMATH: THE FIFTH ESTATE

"We must see how far our paranoia is justified," mumbled a "hint too drunk" Norman Mailer at a raucous Manhattan party nearly two years ago. The occasion: the macho scribe's 50th birthday and the birth of a new organization, the Fifth Estate, which would uncover the extent of the intelligence community's role in America. In fact, despite its shaky beginning, Fifth Estate did headquarter in Washington and did begin a quarterly magazine that only stopped publishing this year when funds ran low. Then the research arm of the group formed a separate non-profit group, the Intelligence Documentation Center, which has—through successful Freedom of Information Act requests—brought you news recently of Navy Intelligence's spying on civilians and the military's quiet role handling the siege at Wounded Knee.

Footnote: Fifth Estate's finances have improved and Porter says its magazine will reappear next month. On the group's board: Intelligence hounds Victor Marchetti, retired Col. Fletcher Prouty, Philip Agee, Marcus Raskin, Mark Lane and William Turner.

And you thought he was famous: at the Pacem In Terris conference a few weeks ago, a dinner table partner asked the CIA's high spy: "And Mr. Colby, what do you do for a living?" . . .

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